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Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" With reference to the answer to clause (c), may I ask whether the Government accepted the recommendations made by the Committee and by the College Council in regard to the names recommended for appointment as Assistant Lecturers ? "

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" Names are to be recommended. The appointment is with the Local Government."

Industries.

The Indian Tariff Board's omission to visit Madras.

* 23 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Tariff Board was advised by the Madras Government not to visit Madras ;

(b) the reasons for that advice ; and

(c) whether before giving that advice the Government took any non-official opinion, and, if so, what that opinion was ?

A.—(a) The Government suggested to the Board that it was scarcely worth while for it to visit Madras in connexion with its investigations into the printer's ink, paper, cement and magnesium chloride industries.

(b) Because there is no manufacture of printer's ink in this Presidency while in regard to the other industries the Government thought that the two or three witnesses who offered to give oral evidence could, in the interests of economy, preferably be invited to Poona which the Board proposed to visit.

(c) No.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" With reference to the answer to clause (c), may I know why no non-official opinion was consulted in the matter, before Government told the Tariff Board not to visit Madras ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" The Government did not consider it necessary."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

Civil Justice.

Memorial from the second-grade pleaders of the Presidency.

24 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) the year when the second-grade pleadership examination was abolished ;

(b) the number of second-grade pleaders now practising in the Presidency ;

(c) whether any memorial was received at any time from the second-grade pleaders of the Presidency, that they should be placed on the same footing as first-grade pleaders, whether it was referred to various District Judges and Bar Associations in the Presidency and, if so, with what result and how the memorial was finally disposed of ; and

(d) whether the Government will place on the table copies of the correspondence on the subject ?

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- A.—(a) 1910.
 (b) The Government have no information.
 (c) & (d) The High Court is exclusively entitled to act in these matters.

Reduction in the number of holidays in mufassal courts.

25 Q.—MR. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) the reasons why holidays for courts in the mufassal on penultimate Saturdays have been abolished and the Easter holidays have been reduced from six to four;

(b) the reasons why similar arrangements have not been made in the High Court; and

(c) whether the Government have any proposal to restore the holidays in the mufassal on penultimate Saturdays and also arrange that the Christmas holidays shall extend to at least 12 days?

A.—(a) & (b) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 229 asked at the meeting of the Legislative Council held in August 1924.

(c) No.

Mr. Jackson on special duty.

26 Q.—MR. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. Jackson was placed on special duty this year to ascertain the state of work in all the courts of the Presidency and to make proposals as to whether the additional courts should be established;

(b) whether his proposals are now being considered by the Government; and

(c) whether this House will be consulted before passing final orders thereon?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) & (c) The proposals have already been considered by the Government and orders passed.

Criminal Justice.

Villages under the jurisdiction of the Court of the Sub-Magistrate of Ambur.

27 Q.—MR. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the villages of Rajapalaiyam, Sekkanur, Ariyur, Sitheri, Pennathur, Oosur, Katuputhur, Soshavaram, Thuthikkadu, Palambakkam, Sikkirikovil and Kathalampattu in the Vellore taluk of North Arcot district, though situated only at a distance of 6 to 10 miles from Vellore town, are under the jurisdiction of the Sub-Magistrate of Ambur;

(b) whether the above villages are situated at a distance of from 30 to 45 miles from Ambur town;

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(c) whether Government are aware of the great hardship that litigants and witnesses are put to on account of this distance to their nearest competent Sub-Magistrate's Court; and

(d) if Government have no information, whether they will be pleased to call for the same and pass suitable orders?

A.—The Government have no information and have called for a report.

Districts where largest number of crimes is reported.

28 Q.—MR. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether Anantapur, Kurnool and Cuddapah are tracts wherein largest number of crimes are reported;

(b) whether it is a fact that in these tracts there is one crime for every 750 inhabitants, whereas the Presidency average works out to one crime for every 2,222 inhabitants;

(c) whether he proposes to take any special steps to reduce crime in the localities concerned; and

(d) whether there is sufficient vigilance and patrol in the tracts named?

A.—(a) & (b) The hon. Member is following the figures of the Madras Police Report, 1923. The Government have no reason to suppose these figures are inaccurate.

(c) Successive administration reports show that crime is always heavy in these three districts. The Government are not aware that any special steps to reduce crime would be practicable.

(d) The Government have no reason to believe that the vigilance and patrol are insufficient.

Police.

Presidency, etc., Police sports.

29 Q.—MR. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) the actual expenditure to the Government in connexion with
(i) the Presidency Police sports;
(ii) Range Police sports; and
(iii) District Police sports;

in each of the last three years;

(b) why the Government are spending such large sums year after year; and

(c) whether the Government would be pleased to lay on the table of the House the opinions of all the Deputy Inspectors-General in this connexion including that of Mr. F. S. S. George?

A.—(a) Under G.O. No. 2814, Home (Judicial), dated 8th November 1920, the Government make an annual grant of Rs. 14,400 for all police sports. This does not include the cost of travelling allowance to teams. In January 1924 Rs. 6,720 was spent in travelling allowance for teams which went to Vellore. Figures for other years are not available.

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- (b) The Government consider that the sports are essential for promoting the efficiency of the police force.
- (c) The Government have not thought it necessary to consult individual officers recently in view of their decision made known in the Government Order referred to in clause (a).

Proposal to change the system of work in the Police department.

30 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether there is any proposal to change the system of work in the Police department as regards the duty of the District Superintendent of Police or the Deputy Superintendent of Police ;
- (b) whether the Deputy Superintendents of Police or Circle Inspectors are to investigate into any cases at present or in future ; and
- (c) whether the District Superintendents of Police are required to take any part in actual investigation now or hereafter ?

A.—(a) There is no such proposal.

(b) Deputy Superintendents are required to investigate whenever possible all cases of grave crime and Circle Inspectors should supervise the investigation of all crimes of any importance

(c) Superintendents should investigate grave crimes when this is practicable.

Local Audit Department.

Departmental examination in the Local Audit Department.

31 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that clerks in the Local Audit Department are expected to pass a departmental examination to cross the efficiency bar at Rs. 60 in the case of lower grade ;

(b) whether précis-writing is one of the subjects in the above examination in addition to some ten subjects ;

(c) whether the candidates are allowed only two chances for passing the above examination ; and

(d) whether Government have received any memorials about increasing the number of chances and whether Government have under consideration the question of increasing the number of chances in consideration of the fact that the special tests (departmental) examinations in other departments are being conducted *with books* while in the Local Audit department they are conducted *without books* ?

A.—The answer to clause (a) is in the negative and therefore (b), (c) and (d) do not arise.

Land Revenue.

Collection of assessment, etc., in Bellary taluk.

32 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether petitions have been received from the ryots of Sindigiri, Vodatti, Kaggallu, Dammur, Kolar, Kallukambam,

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Kerikera, Somasamudram, K. Yemmiganur, Orvayai, Guttiganur, Patna-serugu, Kurugodu, Mushtigatti and Somalapuram of Bellary taluk, Bellary district, to the effect that it would be extremely hard on them if they are required to pay, along with this year's assessment, the suspended assessment of the last fasli, and the instalments of principal and interest due on loans advanced during the last two famines, that the suspended revenue be remitted and that the collection of current assessment be postponed to April, and the action taken by the Government, if any, and the orders passed thereon?

A.—Yes. The Government have called for a report from the Collector which is awaited.

Local Boards and Municipal Councils.

Construction of a temple near an existing mosque in Pudupet.

33 Q.—MR. MUHAMMAD MOOSA SAIT: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government know that a mosque exists in Pudupet which was constructed more than 70 years ago and that the Hindu lace weavers of the locality have started a Bhajana Kudam (Singing-house) within a few feet of the mosque in recent years and propose to convert it into a temple by constructing a new building;

(b) whether the Muslims of the locality represented to Government that the existence of a temple so close to a mosque would cause disturbance to the worship in the latter and would lead to trouble and they requested the Government to prohibit the construction;

(c) whether the Government passed any orders on the subject in or about the year;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Commissioner of the Madras Corporation has again permitted the construction of the new temple;

(e) whether the Government are aware that the Commissioner could not interfere in the matter owing to the absence of a by-law under section 230 of the Madras City Municipal Act; and

(f) whether in this connexion the hon. the Minister was approached by the Muslims of Pudupet to frame the much-needed by-law?

A.—(a) It was so stated in a petition submitted by the Muhammadan residents of Pudupet to the Commissioner, Corporation of Madras, in February 1924.

(b) The answer is in the affirmative.

(c) The Government declined to interfere in the matter in view of the decision of the Madras High Court in C.S. No. 484 of 1918 to the effect that the Dharmakartas of the Hindu temple in question were entitled to alter and extend the temple building in a lawful manner.

(d) The Government understand that the Commissioner of the Madras Corporation has issued a permit for a small extension of the temple as per plan submitted to him.

(e) & (f) The answer is in the affirmative.

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Construction of places of worship in the proximity of existing ones.

34 Q.—Mr. MUHAMMAD MOOSA SAIT: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that though the Madras City Municipal Act was passed long ago, no by-law has yet been framed under section 230 relating to the construction of places of worship in the proximity of existing ones;

(b) if so, whether there is any reason for this long delay or whether it is due merely to an oversight;

(c) whether the Muslims of Pudupet, Madras City, recently made any application to the hon. Minister in this respect and whether they waited on him in deputation to impress on him the urgent need of such a measure; and

(d) if the answer to the above question is in the affirmative, what orders have been passed on their application and what reply was given to them by the Minister?

A.—(a) The answer is in the affirmative.

(b) The question was considered soon after the Madras City Municipal Act, 1919, was passed and it was decided that no rule need then be made.

(c) & (d) An application was made for the reception of a deputation. The petitioners were informed that no useful purpose would be served by receiving a deputation at that stage and that the question of modifying the building rules was under consideration.

Education.*Building for the Government Institute of Commerce, Madras.*

35 Q.—Mr. C. GOPALA MENON: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether a permanent habitation will be provided for the Government Institute of Commerce, Madras, and whether he is taking steps to secure the necessary funds for the same in the next budget?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 677 asked by him at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 20th March 1924. The question of site has not yet reached a final settlement.

The Management of the Local Government Secondary School, Tiruvalur.

36 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether he has received a memorial from the citizens of Tiruvalur protesting against the handing over of the management of the Local Government Secondary School to the Municipal Council, Tiruvalur;

(b) the reasons for the decision of the Government in this matter; and

(c) whether the Government propose to reconsider their decision?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 1450 asked at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 6th December 1924. The Government have since directed that the transfer of management of the school should take effect from 1st July 1925.

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Excise.

Orders passed on the report of the Excise Advisory Committee.

37 Q.—Mr. C. GOPALA MENON: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether any conclusions have been arrived at from the evidence recorded by the Excise Advisory Committee and what they are and whether the Government have passed final orders thereon with a view to the introduction of the principle of local option in the Excise Administration of this Presidency?

A.—The Committee has completed the examination of witnesses and will meet shortly for further consultation.

The Nilgiri Temperance Association resolutions.

38 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether he has received a representation from the Nilgiri Temperance Association forwarding certain resolutions of a public meeting; and

(b) whether the Government propose to take any action thereon, and if so, what?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Not at present.



British Empire Exhibition.

The Wembley Exhibition.

39 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to a note in the *Daily Express* of 19th of November, page 6, regarding the sale of articles at the 'Wembley Exhibition';

(b) how many Madras articles were among those sold; and

(c) what is the loss, if any, to the Government?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Some of the exhibits belonging to 12 out of the 133 exhibitors who participated in the Exhibition were sold by auction at the close of the Exhibition, the purpose for which they had been sent to London having been served. The total number of lots thus sold was 174.

(c) None.

Agriculture.

The total quantity of milk available in the Presidency.

40 Q.—Mr. C. GOPALA MENON: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to give a statement as to—

(a) the quantity of milk available per head per day in this Presidency;

(b) total number of cows after deducting 25 per cent as barren and aged;

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- (c) quantity of milk in seers at the rate of half seer per cow per day for 180 days in a year ;
 (d) number of she-buffaloes after deducting 25 per cent as barren and aged ;
 (e) quantity of milk in seers at the rate of 2 seers per she-buffalo per day for 180 days in a year ; and
 (f) total quantity of milk available in a year ?

A.—(a) & (f) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to clause (a) of question 654 given in March 1924.

(b) to (e) Information as to the number of cows and cow-buffaloes is given in Appendix XVI to the Season and Crop report for 1922-23.

The quantity of milk available on the basis of the hon. Member's calculations can be worked out from these figures but the Government are not prepared to say that these calculations will be correct.

III.—ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT—cont.

* The DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—“I am to announce to the House that His Excellency the Governor has approved the election of Diwan Bahadur L. D. Swamikannu Pillai as President of the Madras Legislative Council. (Loud and prolonged cheers).”

“I think it will meet with the approval of the House if I adjourn the House to 2 o'clock, when the President will be duly installed.”

The House then adjourned at 1-3 p.m.

After Lunch (2 p.m.).

The hon. Diwan Bahadur L. D. SWAMIKANNU PILLAI, the newly elected President, led by the party representatives—Messrs. S. Venkatachalam Chettiyar and P. T. Rajan—entered the hall in procession. Standing at the foot of the chair he said :

“Before taking the chair of this House again as its President, I would tender to the House my deep sense of gratitude for the honour which it has conferred upon me.”

He then bowed to the House and took his seat

* The hon. Sir ARTHUR KNAPP :—“Mr. President, I feel it a high privilege that it should fall to my lot to be the first Member of this House to address you on your taking your seat in the chair as our President. It is a year ago almost to a day since my predecessor from this place in welcoming you then to the chair observed that you occupied it not by the votes of the Members of this House but by nomination by His Excellency. We have moved forward since then and we have ascended one more rung in the ladder of constitutional progress; and it is a satisfaction to us all, as it must be I am sure to you, to feel that you now take your place as our first elected President (hear, hear). The natural gratification which you must feel at having attained to the most important position which can be occupied by a non-official in this Presidency must, I feel sure, be greatly enhanced by the fact that you now owe your position not to the goodwill